



Art Unit 3711

#3
Reconsideration
J. Zimmerman
4-2302



3711

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Sebastiano Passaniti
Applicants: Frank Thomas
Serial No: 09/845,280
Filed: April 30, 2001
TITLE: A Golf Club Having An Alignment Device Thereon Customer No.:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 13, 2002.

Remarks

Claims 1 to 25 remain in this application.

The allowance of claims 5 to 25 is acknowledged.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 to 4 as being unpatentable over Reach in view of Seisaku is requested.

Claim 1 is directed to a golf club comprising "a shaft having a longitudinal axis, a head. . . having a flat striking face. . . and an alignment means extending along a surface of said shaft and said head in a plane perpendicular to said longitudinal axis . . . and parallel to said striking face. . .". Neither Reach nor Seisaku describes or teaches such a structure. However, the Examiner alleges that it would be obvious to use the teachings of Seisaku in the structure of Reach in order to arrive at the claimed structure. Issue is taken in this respect.

Reach describes the use of a sighting line c which extends from the toe to the top of the hosel (see Figs. 1 and 2). Seisaku, on the other hand, appears to use a tape 4 that is attached to a shaft of a putter near the head 1 of the putter so that a straight line on the tape 4 is parallel with the face of the putter. Fig. 1 of Seisaku also appears to show a separate line on the head of the putter.

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